

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator REID, and, of course, thank Senator COLLINS. We have again worked very closely together. I thank the staff on both sides who worked very hard, and I thank all of our colleagues.

I know it took a lot of effort, because people have strong opinions about the crisis in the Postal Service of the United States, but we have ended with a process here that will allow a discussion and votes on a wide range of amendments on both sides. I would say based on the knowledge we have of this list that not all of these amendments listed will actually require rollcall votes.

We will be working over the weekend trying to see if we can find common ground, accept some of these amendments or modify them. But bottom line, this consent agreement, though we are not there yet, gives me great hope that the Senate is going to prove that we are capable of taking on a crisis situation which the post office is in, losing \$13 billion plus over the last 2 years. If we do not do anything, it is only going to get worse and a lot of people are going to lose their jobs and a lot of people who depend on the mail are not going to get it in the same way.

This is a bill that will provide an orderly reform that will keep the post office not only alive but change it so it can survive throughout the 21st century.

Senator COLLINS and I will be here at noon on Monday to debate any of the amendments people want to come to debate. I believe I am speaking for both of us in saying—I know I am—that after the votes Monday afternoon unrelated to this matter, we are prepared to remain here into the evening to continue debating amendments before the actual votes occur on Tuesday afternoon.

Again, I thank everyone involved, particularly Senator COLLINS.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I want to echo the thanks to everyone who was involved in formulating this very extensive unanimous consent agreement. We have been working extremely hard the last couple of days to make sure we were being fair to all Members on a bill on which there are diverse opinions, on an issue that is so important and that is how do we save an essential American institution, the U.S. Postal Service.

I too want to thank our two leaders, Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL, and my dear friend and chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Senator LIEBERMAN, as well as our staffs and our floor staff who have put in so many hours.

I want to reiterate that Senator LIEBERMAN and I will be available to negotiate—our staffs will as well—and to debate these issues. We will be available over the weekend and tomorrow,

and then on Monday to begin the debate on the amendments. But, again, I want to thank everyone involved. I think this is how the Senate should operate. It took a lot of work to get here, but no one gave up. Everyone kept working away.

I believe we have come up with a very fair agreement to allow us to proceed on a bill of great significance. I want to thank everyone involved.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MR. CHIP HUTCHESON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I stand before you today in honor of someone who has made a substantial contribution to the people of Caldwell County, KY, for his work in the field of journalism: Mr. Chip Hutcheson, publisher of Caldwell County's local periodical, the Princeton Times Leader. Mr. Hutcheson was recently inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in Lexington, KY, along with five other esteemed broadcasting and journalism colleagues from all over the Commonwealth.

The relationship between Chip Hutcheson and the paper that would become the Princeton Times Leader began when Chip was just 10 months old. His parents, the late John and Betsy Hutcheson, purchased the then-Princeton Leader and moved to Princeton, KY, just after the birth of their son, Chip. John and Betsy shared a love for their chosen profession of journalism, a love of the trade that Chip, too, would inherit at a young age.

Looking back, Chip recalls the paper being a big part of his adolescent life. He remembers writing sports news all throughout his teenage years. Chip left Princeton after high school to attend the University of Kentucky, just like his father before him. He enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduating from the college and served 4 months of active duty in Vietnam.

Upon his return from the service, he immediately re-entered the field he had been passionately involved with for so long. He understood that journalism was his calling, and he wanted to make a career out of bringing the news to the people of Caldwell County, just as his beloved mother and father had. Chip remembered a piece of advice his father gave him about the media industry: "He said, This is a good business, but remember this—you will never be caught up; there will always be one more advertiser you can see, one more story you can write."

After watching his parents run a newspaper throughout his childhood, Chip was no doubt aware of the difficulties of producing a new edition day in and day out, but he was okay with it. He had a deep desire to be in the thick of reporting. He wanted to follow leads, piece together stories, record monumental events, and most importantly, inform the citizens of Princeton of the goings on of the world around them.

Chip became publisher of the Princeton Leader in 1976, assumed the role of publisher of the Times Leader in 1992, and has been doing an outstanding job ever since. Chip Hutcheson is a testament to the success one can achieve when one enters a field of work one has a true passion for.

It is with the most sincere gratitude that I congratulate Mr. Chip Hutcheson on his induction to the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and thank him for the heartfelt devotion he has shown the people of Princeton, Caldwell County, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky throughout the years. And I would like to ask my colleagues in the United States Senate to join me in commemorating Mr. Chip Hutcheson for his many accomplishments in the field of journalism.

There was recently an article published in the Princeton Times Leader which made note of Chip Hutcheson's induction into the 2012 Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to appear in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Princeton Times Leader, Apr. 14, 2012]

TL PUBLISHER JOINS HALL OF FAME RANKS (By Jared Nelson)

Times Leader Publisher Chip Hutcheson and two others with western Kentucky connections were among a class of six individuals inducted into the 2012 class of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame this week.

The induction ceremony followed a luncheon hosted by the University of Kentucky Journalism Alumni Association and the UK School of Journalism and Telecommunications in Lexington Wednesday.

Other inductees included: D.J. Everett III, president of Ham Broadcasting Company, which operates the WKDZ and WHVO radio stations; Dr. Bob McGaughey, retired chairman of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at Murray State University; Albert B. "Ben" Chandler, Jr., longtime publisher of the Woodford Sun; Bill Luster, retired photo-journalist with the Louisville Courier-Journal and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner; and Michael M. York, a former Lexington Herald-Leader and Washington Post reporter, also a Pulitzer Prize winner.

Duane Bonifer, president of the alumni association, noted April as national Jazz Appreciation Month and drew parallels between the work of great jazz musicians and great journalists, their balance of innovation and improvisation.

"We're going to celebrate the artistry of Chandler, Everett, Hutcheson, Luster, McGaughey, and York," he said. "That's not a bad sextet to be jamming with on a Wednesday afternoon in Lexington."